



Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District
PN-07-50

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OP-RPA (PA DOT – S.R. 6247, SECTION 0000)07-1605-P12

Comment Period: August 6, 2007 to September 6, 2007

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED AT THIS TIME.

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33. U.S.C. 1344) as described below:

APPLICANT: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Engineering District 4-0
55 Keystone Industrial Park
Dumore, Pennsylvania 18512

LOCATION: S.R. 6247, Section 000, is located between S.R. 0247 and S.R. 1012, in Jessup and Archbald Boroughs, in Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. The project begins in Jessup Borough at S.R. 0247, approximately 3000 feet south from the S.R. 0006 interchange with S.R. 0247, continuing northeast across Grassy Island Creek, crossing over S.R. 0006 approximately 6200 feet south of S.R. 1012 (Salem Road) interchange in Archbald Borough, and ending with a connection into PEI Power Park Road approximately 4000 feet south of S.R. 1012.

WORK: To discharge dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, associated with the construction of a new two-lane collector roadway between S.R. 0247 and S.R. 1012. The multi-phased project will permanently impact 2,797.4 linear feet of waterways and temporarily impact 259.5 linear feet. In addition, the proposal will permanently impact 0.256 acres of wetlands and temporarily impact 0.023 acres. The proposed project will not effect any Federally Endangered and/or Threatened Species. PA DOT proposes to mitigate for wetland impacts by constructing 0.70 acres of wetland replacement (at least 0.14 acres must be forested and 0.13 acres must be scrub-shrub). The wetland replacement area will be located adjacent to an existing wetland (identified in the wetland identification mapping as wetland #1). To mitigate waterway impacts associated with this proposal, PA DOT is proposing to re-establish 1.1 acres of a riparian buffer along Grassy Island Creek. Currently, the stream mitigation site is largely barren of vegetation and covered by several feet of coal fines. The applicant's stated purpose for the collector roadway is to support regional and local (land use) planning and economic development initiatives proposed for the area.

All work will be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Michael Dombroskie at (814) 235-0571.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonable may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof;

among those are conservation, economic, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, State College, Pennsylvania. 16801, with the comment period specified above.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection through the issuance of a Section 105 permit or through direct application to the Regional Office in the area of the proposed project. The Section 404 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year in which to make its decision.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.



A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect Federal listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

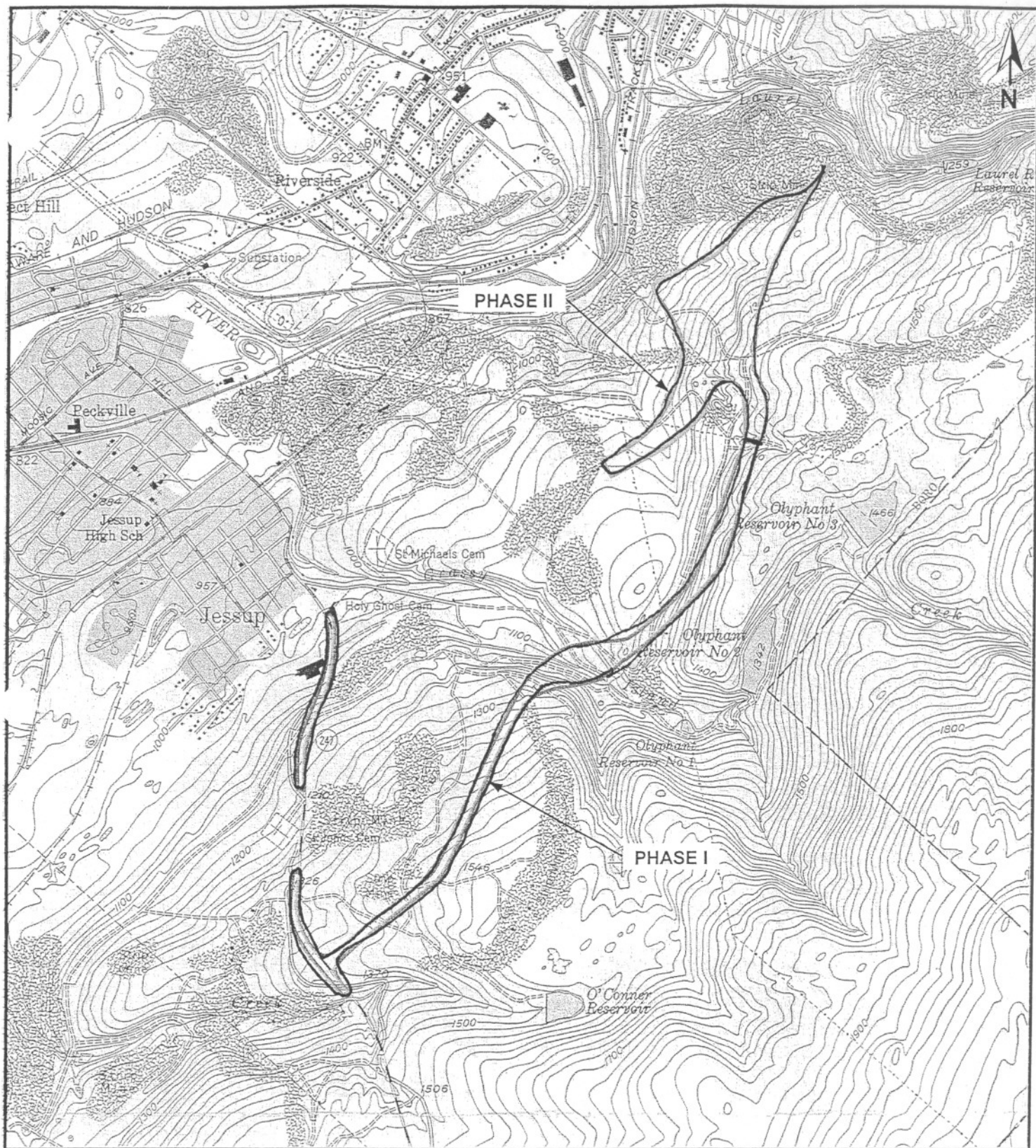
Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion, therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the request permit.

The evaluation of the impact of this project on the public interest will include applications of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, State College Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, State College, Pennsylvania 16801, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Also it must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate this information concerning the proposed work to any persons know by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

 
IRWIN GARSKOF
Chief, Pennsylvania Section



SCALE: 1" = 2,000'



REFERENCE: United States Department of Interior Geological Survey
Olyphant, PA (1946, Photorevised 1983)

PROJECT LOCATION MAP
PENNSYLVANIAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
S.R. 6247, SECTION 0000

Figure 1 Project Location

S.R. 6247, Section 000

Lackawanna County, Jessup and Archibald Boroughs, Pennsylvania



Table 1 Watercourse Impacts for the Proposed S.R. 6247, Section 000

Watercourse	Phase of the Project	Description	Structure	Permanent Impacts (linear feet)	Temporary Impacts (linear feet)
2-3 (Grassy Island Creek)	I	Perennial	Precast RC Box Culvert	663.0	194.6
2A	I	Ephemeral	SWM-3	242.4	0.0
18	I	Ephemeral	24" CMP 18" RCP	305.0	64.9
12	II/III	Stormwater ditch	24" RCP	688.0	0.0
30	II/III	Stormwater ditch	Roadway Fill & Cut	824.0	0.0
30A	II/III	Intermittent	60" RCP	75.0	0.0
			Total	2797.4	259.5

Table 2 Wetland Impacts for the Proposed S.R. 6247, Section 000.

Wetland	Exceptional Value	Phase of the Project	Structure	Cowardin Classification	Permanent Impacts (acres)	Temporary Impacts (acres)
5	No	I	Box Culvert	PSS1	0.000	0.020
8	Yes	I	SWM-3	PSS1/EM1	0.002	0.000
18	No	I	Channel ditches	PEM1	0.005	0.003
18	No	I	Roadway Fill	PFO1/SS1	0.089	0.000
12	No	II/III	Roadway Fill	PFO1	0.013	0.000
24	No	II/III	Roadway Fill	PEM1	0.090	0.000
30	Yes	II/III	SWM-	PFO1	0.057	0.000
				Totals:	0.256	0.023